

MEETING MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY OF ALAMEDA HISTORICAL ADVISORY BOARD
THURSDAY, AUGUST 5, 2010

1. CONVENE: 7:05 pm
2. ROLL CALL: Present: Chair Owens, Board Members Hoffman and Lynch;
Jon Biggs, HAB Secretary; Laura Ajello, Planner I

Absent: Vice Chair Rauk
3. MINUTES: Meeting of June 3, 2010 (pending)
4. AGENDA CHANGES AND DISCUSSIONS: None.
5. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS: None.
6. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS: None.
7. REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:
 - 7-A **Certificate of Approval - PLN10-0190 – 1218 Oak Street.** The applicant is requesting a Certificate of Approval to allow removal of one Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*). According to a Certified Arborist Report, the 24" diameter tree, located in a narrow side yard, is causing damage to the building and should be removed.

Ms. Ajello presented the project.

Mr. Bowen, certified arborist, wrote the report. The arborist stated that the tree is in poor condition and that it had been poorly pruned over time. He stated that the tree does not have any disease.

Chair Owens asked whether any building permits would be required for any repairs on the structure.

Staff responded that city staff would not be required to inspect the building after tree removal.

Chair Owens suggested a condition be added to the tree removal permit that a licensed contractor, engineer, or architect inspect the foundation of the historic structure for any damage to the building after the tree has been removed. Such report from the engineer or architect would be forwarded to the HAB.

Chair Owens motioned, seconded by Hoffman approving the resolution as amended. Motion passes 4-0.

Board Member Lynch asked how much money was placed in the tree fund and where trees had been planted.

Staff stated that one tree had been planted behind the new recreation building at Washington Park and that staff would be further researching the amount of funds available.

Board Member Lynch and Hoffman requested that staff investigate and clarify whether tree funds can only be used for planting oaks in public spaces, or if they could be used for any trees.

7-B Historic Preservation Ordinance Workshop

Chair Owens noted that he had received requests that the board continue to accept public comments. He asked whether the board would be required to make a motion on continuing the public comment period.

Staff explained that no motion would be required.

Staff announced that the subcommittee had continued working on the Draft Ordinance. He elaborated that the subcommittee had also made recommendations on another part of the municipal code that addresses what the Chief Building Official would be able to review and make decisions on the document. He explained that the final document that the HAB would recommend to the City Council for adoption, would include all sections that will be changed.

Chair Owens opened the public comment period.

Ms. Lambden, Alameda Architectural Preservation Society representative, discussed the letter that Mr. Buckley had previously sent to the board members. She stated that the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society would like to request more time to review the document, as it is a complex document. She requested that a redline version would be provided prior to the next workshop to make reviewing the document easier. She noted that some changes had not been incorporated into the latest iteration and asked if the board could state whether the decision not to include them was because they did not agree with them or because they had not had time to review the comments.

Ms. Lambden (not on behalf of the Alameda Architectural Preservation Society) cautioned that homeowners may be too frustrated with the process if requirements for permits on historic structures became too stringent. She noted that the City may see an increase in unpermitted work. A repercussion of increased permit requirements may lead to an increase in work load for the HAB. Ms. Lambden asked that a definition of structures be included in the ordinance. She pointed out that pruning of protected trees should be addressed in the ordinance.

8. BOARD COMMUNICATIONS: None.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS:

Mr. Biggs announced that he was taking a position with another city and that Ms. Wolter, Planner I, would be asked to take up the HAB Secretary duties and work with the subcommittees.

10. ADJOURNMENT: 8:14 pm